

AF/2814

518 IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicant: Rodolfo I. Gamboa

Serial No.: 09/735,668

Filed: 12/20/2000

For: Semiconductor Test Socket Having  
Pogo-Pin Contacts

TI No.: 29518

Art Unit: 2814

Examiner: Farahani, D.

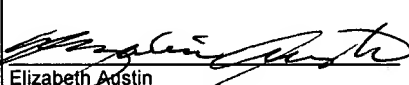
Conf. No.: 5377

APPEAL BRIEF TRANSMITTAL FORM

Commissioner for Patents

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

<u>MAILING CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8 (A)</u>	
I hereby certify that on this day this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
 Elizabeth Austin	9/2/2003 Date

Transmitted herewith in triplicate is an Appellant's Brief in the above-identified application.

Charge any additional fees, or credit overpayment to the deposit account of Texas Instruments Incorporated, Account No. 20-0668. An original and two copies of this sheet are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael K. Skrehot  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 36,682

Texas Instruments Incorporated  
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Dallas, Texas 75265  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Rodolfo I. Gamboa

Serial No.: 09/735,668

Filed: 12/20/2000

For: Semiconductor Test Socket Having Pogo-Pin Contacts



Conf. No.: 5377

Docket No.: TI-29518

Examiner: Farahani, Dana

Art Unit: 2814

**Appeal Brief**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

9/2/2003.

  
Elizabeth Austin

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the Notice of Appeal mailed 07/02/03, Appellant submits this appeal brief in triplicate. The Commissioner is hereby requested and authorized to charge any fees necessary for the filing of the enclosed papers to deposit account number 20-0668 of Texas Instruments Incorporated.

**Real Party in Interest**

The real party in interest is Texas Instruments Incorporated.

**Related Appeals and Interferences**

No related appeals or interferences are known to Appellant.

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### **Status of Claims**

Claims 1-22 are pending in this application. Claim 18 is the subject of this appeal. Claims 1-17, 21, and 22 have been allowed. Claims 19 and 20 stand objected to as depending upon a rejected base claim, but have been indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim.

### **Status of Amendments**

The paper filed by Appellant in response to the final rejection included no amendments. ~~All other amendments have been entered.~~

### **Summary of Invention**

A preferred embodiment semiconductor device (59 in Figure 9a) comprises a package 60, an integrated circuit 62 disposed within the package, and a plurality of pins 64 each having a series of contact marks 66. Each set of contact marks are of substantially the same pattern and spaced by a pre-determined pitch. See Figures 9a and 9b, as well as the accompanying text on page 10 of the specification from lines 8 to 11.

### **Issues**

1. Whether Claim 18 is patentable under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Raymond (U.S. Patent No. 5,903,353).

### **Grouping of Claims**

Claim 18 stands or falls independently of any other claim.

### **Argument**

1. Claim 18 is patentable under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Raymond (U.S. Patent No. 5,903,353).

Claim 18 includes the feature of "a plurality of pins each having a series of contact marks, each set of contact marks being of substantially the same pattern and spaced by a predetermined pitch." Raymond does not disclose or suggest such a feature. The Examiner has identified element 404 in Raymond's Figure 4 as "a series of contact marks." However, Raymond (col. 6, line 59) refers to element 404 as a "key-point." In col. 4, lines 13-17, Raymond says that a key-point is "a location on a surface of a component, a solder connection, or the BUT." Also, "each key-point serves as a target for light source 110." All of which is consistent with Raymond's statement in col. 3, lines 3-5 that "[d]uring a test, ~~the height of each key-point associated with a selected component is measured~~ relative to a local reference." Therefore, it is clear that Raymond's key-points are not contact marks, but are merely locations that serve as a target for a light source. Moreover, Claim 18 describes each of the plurality of pins as having "a series of contact marks." Even if one were to assume for the sake of argument that Raymond's key-points are contact marks, each of Raymond's leads 406 only has a single key-point, not a series of contact marks where each set of contact marks is substantially the same pattern and spaced by a predetermined pitch. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 18 is patentable over Raymond.

### **Conclusion**

In view of the above, Appellant appeals for the reversal of the rejections and allowance of Claims 1-22.

Respectfully submitted,



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## **APPENDIX**

### Claim on Appeal

18. (original) A semiconductor device comprising:

a package;

an integrated circuit disposed within the package; and

a plurality of pins each having a series of contact marks, each set of contact marks being of substantially the same pattern and spaced by a predetermined pitch.